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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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THIS volume contains the record of the Proceedings of the Society at its stated meetings from September, 1881, to October, 1882, both inclusive. In accordance with the Society's custom, no meetings were held in the months of July and August.

There are presented also in the volume memoirs of nine deceased Resident Members: of Dr. Joseph Palmer, by George Dexter; of the Rev. Mr. Punchard, by Henry M. Dexter; of Dr. Thaddeus William Harris, by Edward D. Harris; of Dr. Thomas H. Webb, by Josiah P. Quincy; of the Hon. George S. Hillard, by Francis W. Palfrey; of the Hon. Solomon Lincoln, by Justin Winsor; of the Hon. Charles H. Warren, by Winslow Warren; of Erastus B. Bigelow, by the late Delano A. Goddard; and of Mr. Goddard, by Charles C. Smith.

The Society has lost no less than twelve of its limited number of Resident Members during the eighteen months which have passed since the record printed in the previous volume of Proceedings; and from the honorary lists nine other names have been removed. Some notice of each of these gentlemen will be found in this volume. The tributes to Longfellow and Emer-

son are perhaps somewhat memorable, as were the services of these scholars to American literature.

An albertype of the portrait of Mr. Hillard, by William Willard, given to the Society in October, 1879, forms the frontispiece to the volume. The interest of the memoirs of Mr. Punchard, Mr. Lincoln, and Mr. Goddard is increased by portraits of their subjects. The Society is indebted to the families of Mr. Punchard and Mr. Lincoln for the portraits of these gentlemen. The other illustrations are an albertype of the signatures of several members of the Suffolk Bar at the close of the last century, placed at page 169 ; and heliotypes of the portraits of Colonel Benjamin Church and Charles Churchill, which accompany Mr. Deane's remarks on these pictures, at page 245. There is a photolithographic cut of Governor Hutchinson's house at page 74 ; and Mr. Porter's paper on President Garfield's ancestry is illustrated with cuts of the Garfield house in Lincoln, at page 85, the Garfield arms, and four autographs of members of the family.

The writer was again obliged to be absent from several successive meetings of the Society, and wishes here to bear testimony to the kindness of his friend, Mr. Porter, who accepted a temporary appointment as Secretary. While Mr. Porter kept the minutes of the meetings and performed the routine duties of the office, it was thought best to postpone the publication of the record until the Secretary's return. The entire volume has therefore been prepared for the press by the regular committee of publication.

This committee has been reconstituted, to the great

regret of its chairman and of the Society. Messrs. Green and Smith retired at the June meeting of this year, after long services, and their places were filled by the appointment of Messrs. Josiah P. Quincy and Horace E. Scudder.

GEORGE DEXTER.

Boston, Dec. 16, 1882.